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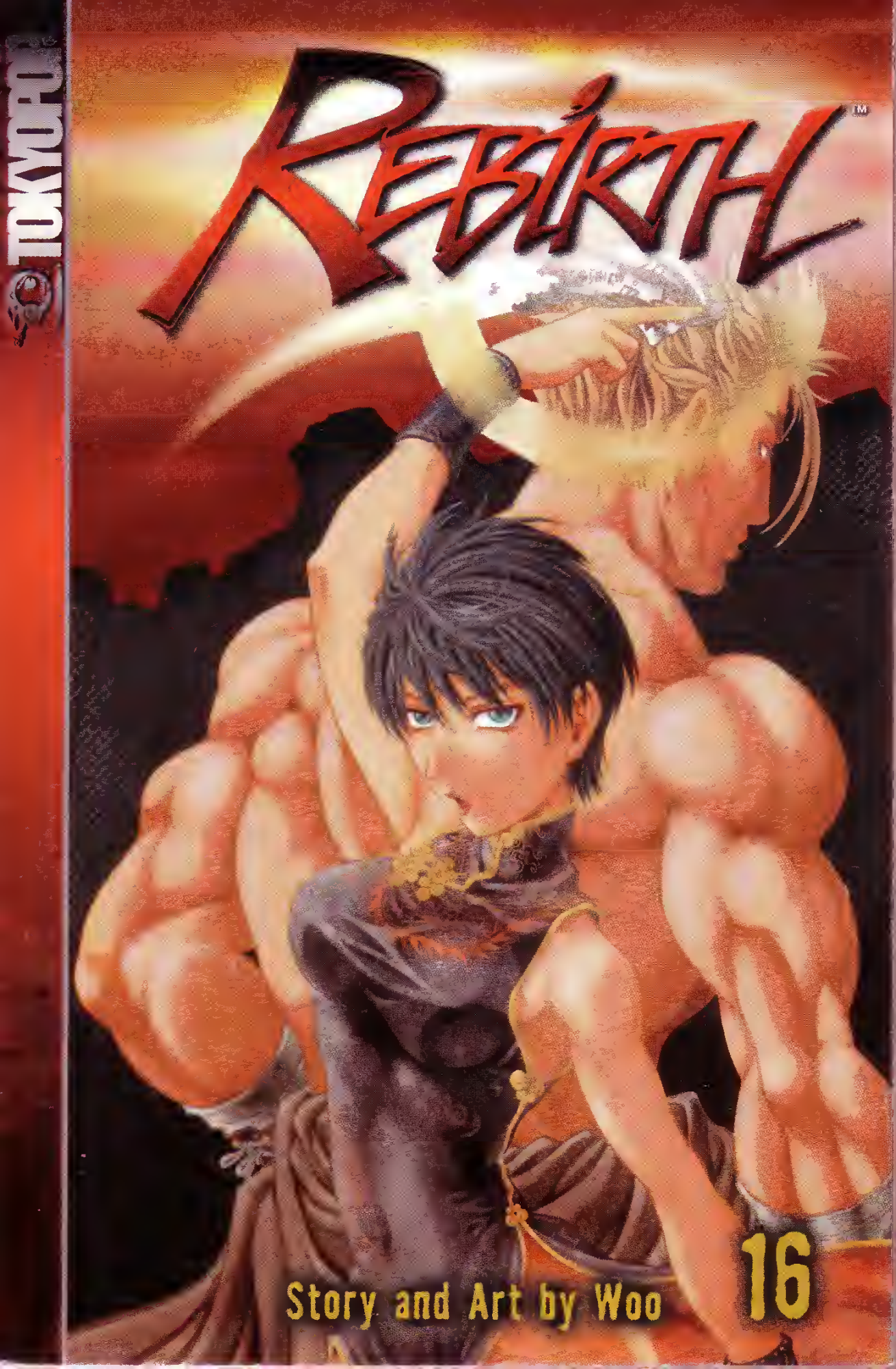
TOKYOPOP
REBIRTH™
Story and Art by Woo
16

REBIRTH™

VOLUME 16

STORY and ART BY
WOO

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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Translation - Jennifer Hahm
English Adaptation - Bryce P Coleman
Copy Editor - Hope Donovan
Retouch and Lettering - Lucas Rivera and James Dashiel
Production Artist - Lucas Rivera
Cover Design - Jorge Negrete

Editor - Bryce P. Coleman
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Managing Editor - Lindsey Johnston
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Publisher and E.I.C. - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

A TOKYOPOP® Manga

TOKYOPOP Inc
5900 Wilshire Blvd Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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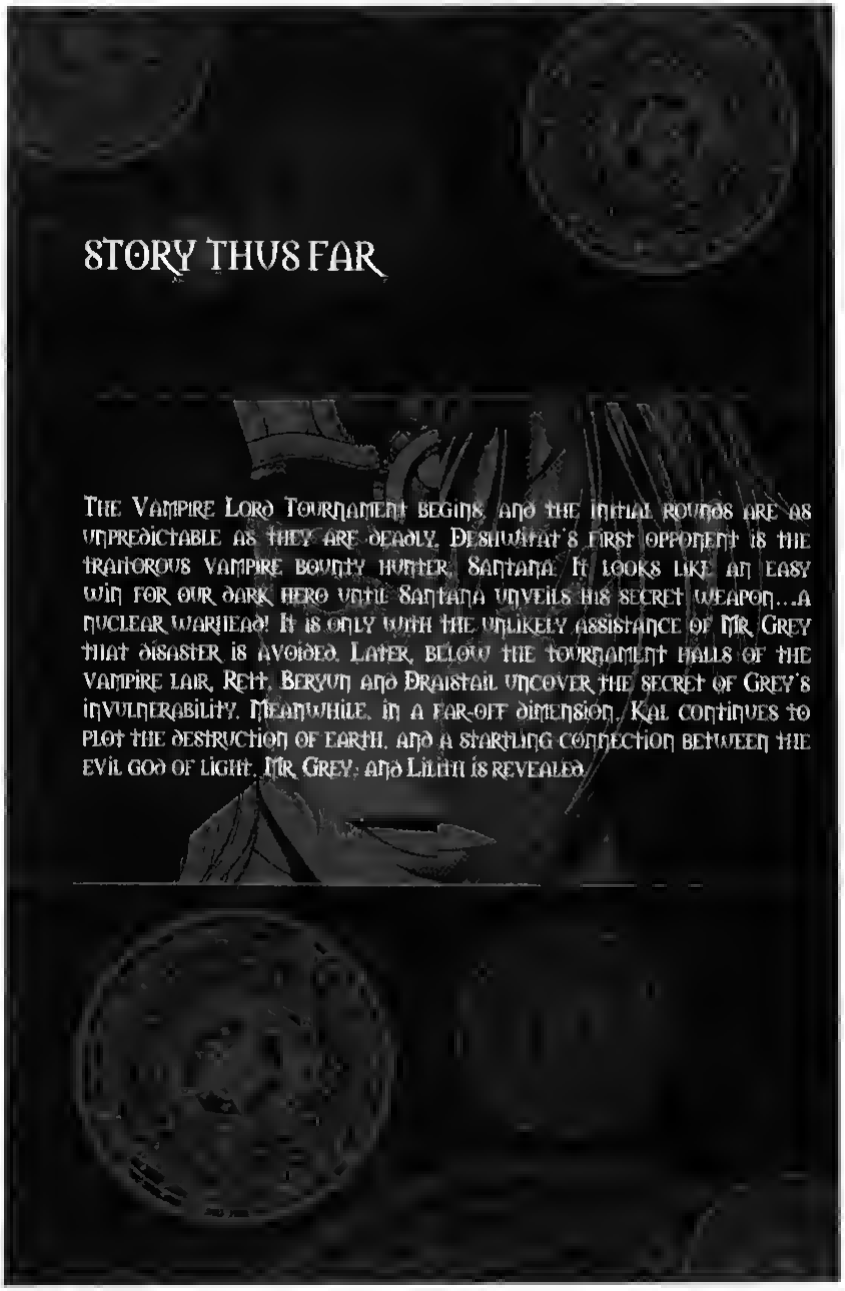

STORY THUS FAR

The Vampire Lord Tournament begins, and the initial rounds are as unpredictable as they are deadly. Deshwaffat's first opponent is the traitorous vampire bounty hunter, Santana. It looks like an easy win for our dark hero until Santana unveils his secret weapon...a nuclear warhead! It is only with the unlikely assistance of Mr. Grey that disaster is avoided. Later, below the tournament halls of the vampire lair, Rett, Beryun and Braistail uncover the secret of Grey's invulnerability. Meanwhile, in a far-off dimension, Kal continues to plot the destruction of Earth, and a startling connection between the evil God of Light, Mr. Grey, and Lilith is revealed.

REBIRTH

Vol 16

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SHE'S THE DARK ANGEL-- MILLENEAR SHEPHILD!
SHE'S LOOKING CALM, COOL AND COLLECTED FOR HER FIRST ROUND IN THE V.L.T.!

SHE'S YET ANOTHER MYSTERY CONTENDER, WITH VERY LITTLE KNOWN REGARDING HER POWERS OR HER PAST. ALL WE KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT SHE'S A VAMPIRE. AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE V.L.T.!
AND THE OPPONENT AT THE RECEIVING END OF HER COLD STARE IS...
MMM... MAMA'S LOOKIN' GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT ♡
...THE BLACK SAMURAI, MARLOWE MIDIUS, WHO ALSO ADVANCED TO THIS ROUND WITH AN UNEARNED WIN!

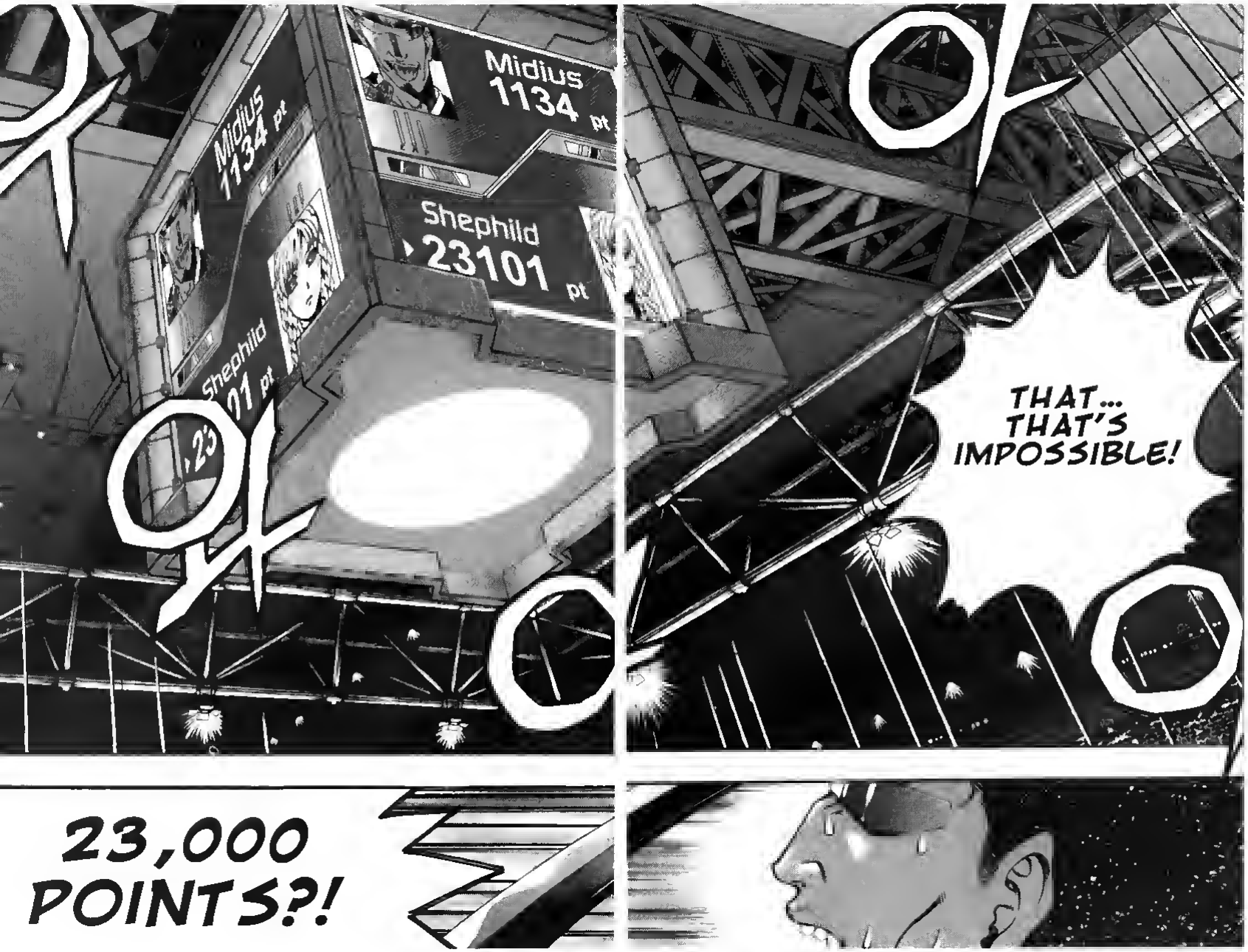
SWINGING A MEAN SAMURAI SWORD AND AN ATTITUDE TO MATCH. MIDIUS IS ONE OF THE BIGGER NAMES HERE AT THE V.L.T.--THE CROWD JUST LOVES HIM!
.....
IT...IT'S MILLENEAR...!
TEAR HIM UP, MILL!
BUT ENOUGH OUT OF ME! YOU CAME HERE TO SEE A...
FIGHT!

HEH HEH.
TELL YOU WHAT, GIRL. AFTER I TAKE YOU DOWN, I'LL BRING YA RIGHT BACK. THEN WE'LL PLAY. ♡
PAPA'S GONNA HAVE SOME FUN TONIGHT! HYAA!
EYAA!!
BIG ATTACK

DAMN, GIRL! WHA--?!

HUH. THIS BITCH'S PACKIN' SOME HEAT. WHAT'S HER ENERGY POINTS LIKE...?
HELL, NO!
I...
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

BITCH'S CRAZY!
HOW CAN SHE--?!
HOW COULD THIS LITTLE GIRL BE SO POWERFUL?!

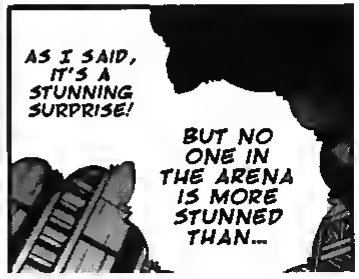

Midius
1134 pt
Shephild
23101 pt
THAT... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
23,000 POINTS?!

23,000 POINTS!! MILLENEAR SHEPHILD'S COMBAT ENERGY POINTS TOTAL 23,000!
THAT'S 10 TIMES MORE THAN THE CURRENT TOURNAMENT RECORD! IT'S JUST ONE SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER!
IT'S A NUMBER SO AWESOME THE CROWD IS STUNNED TO SILENCE!

OF COURSE SHE'S STRONG!
AFTER ALL, IT'S THE LEAST I COULD DO FOR HER.

I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED AS MUCH.

THIS IS CRAZY! I HATE THAT SHE'S A STINKING VAMPIRE...
...BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT CHEER FOR HER TO WIN THE BOUT!


AS I SAID, IT'S A STUNNING SURPRISE!
BUT NO ONE IN THE ARENA IS MORE STUNNED THAN...

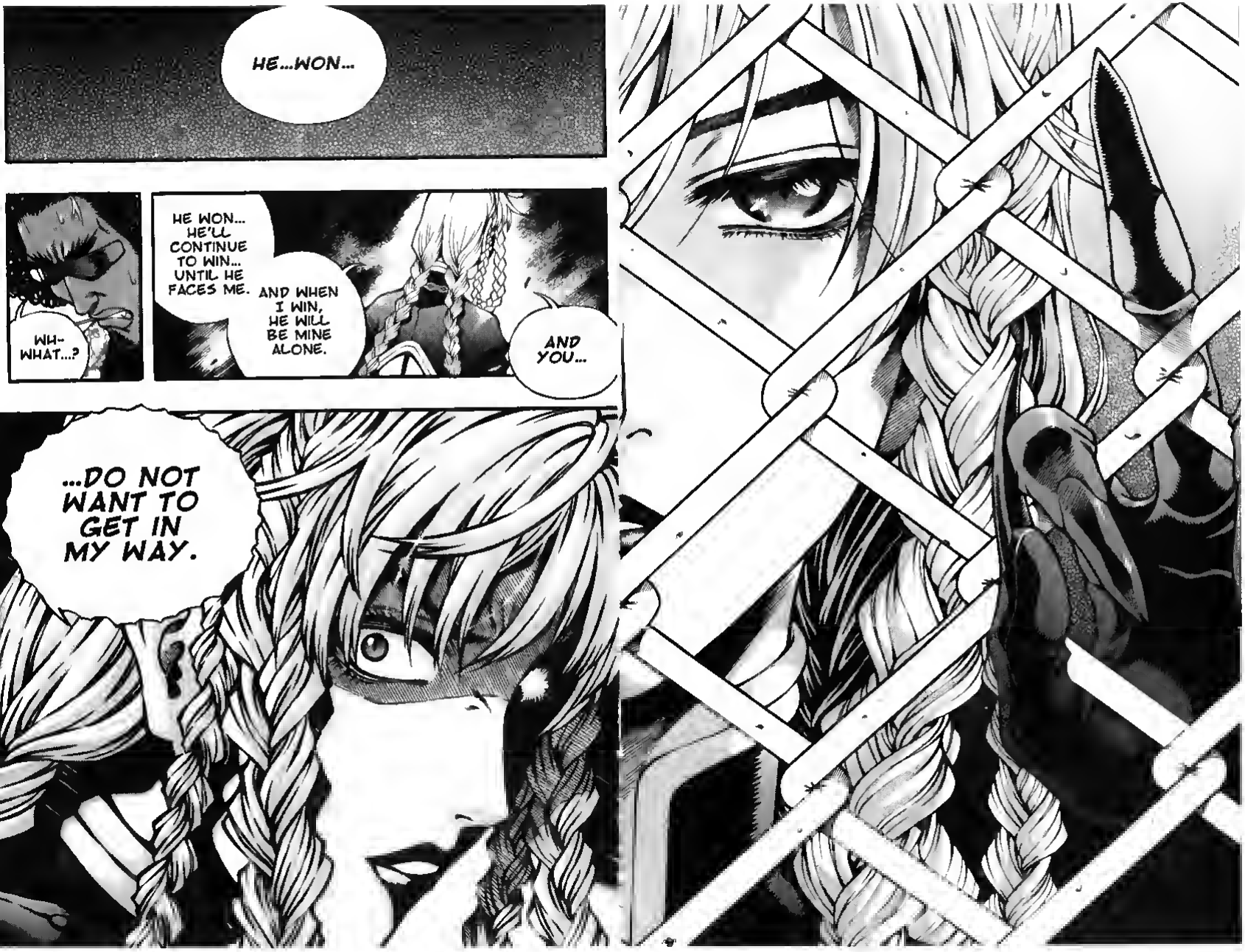
...HER OPPONENT, MARLOWE MIDIUS!
HE'S GOT 1,100 POINTS. THAT'S NO LOW SCORE BY ANY MEANS. BUT NOW IT SEEMS PATHETIC IN COMPARISON!
MAN, THAT BOARD IS BUSTED!

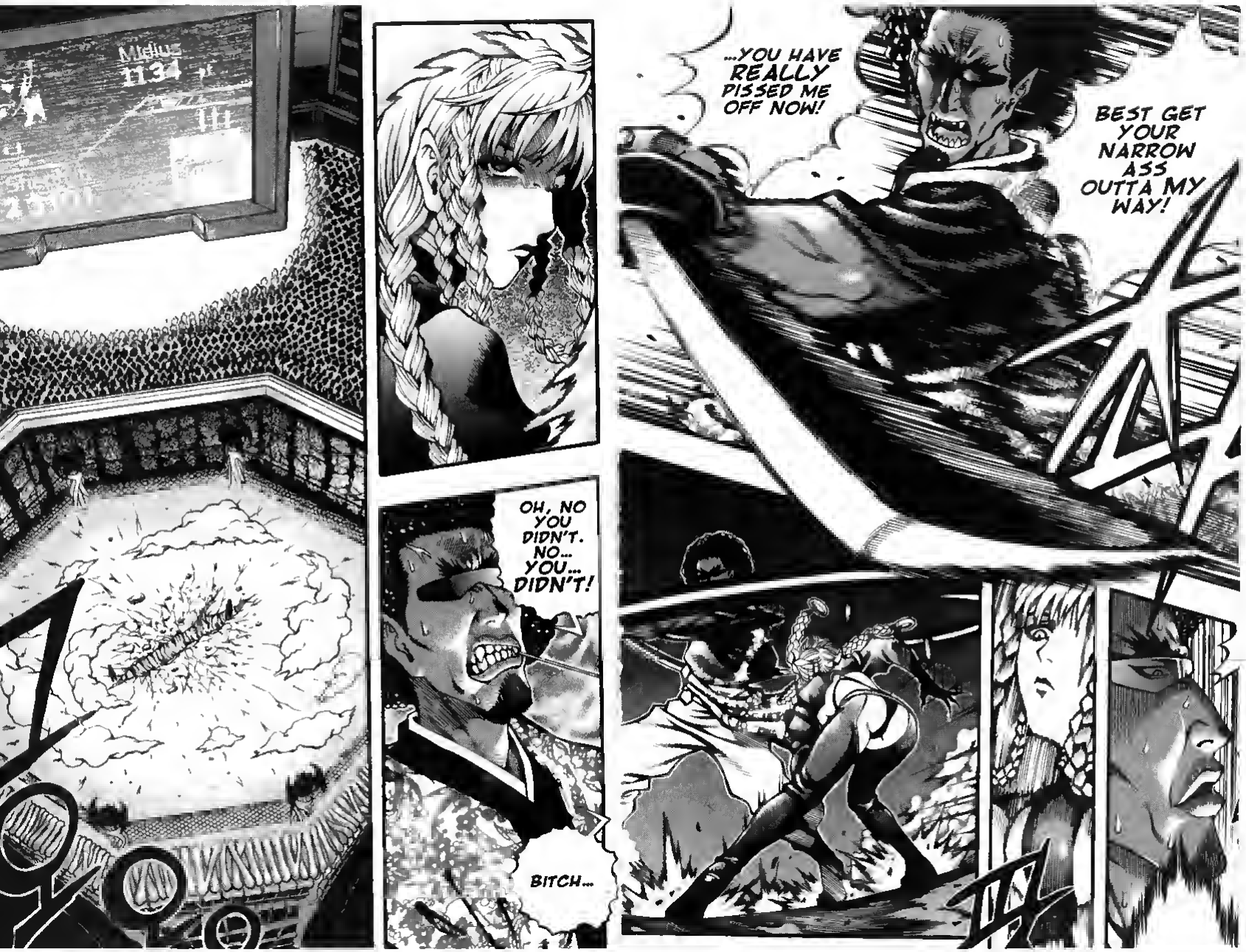
SAME THING HAPPENED YESTERDAY! FOOL HAD LIKE 14 POINTS, THEN WHUPS ALL KINDA ASS!
YEAH, THAT'S IT. SAME THING'S HAPPENIN' NOW, ONLY IN REVERSE!

BUT IT AIN'T FOOLIN' ME, BITCH! AND MY POWER'S FOR REAL!
I'M BRINGIN' THE PAIN, GIRL!
RRAAHH!!

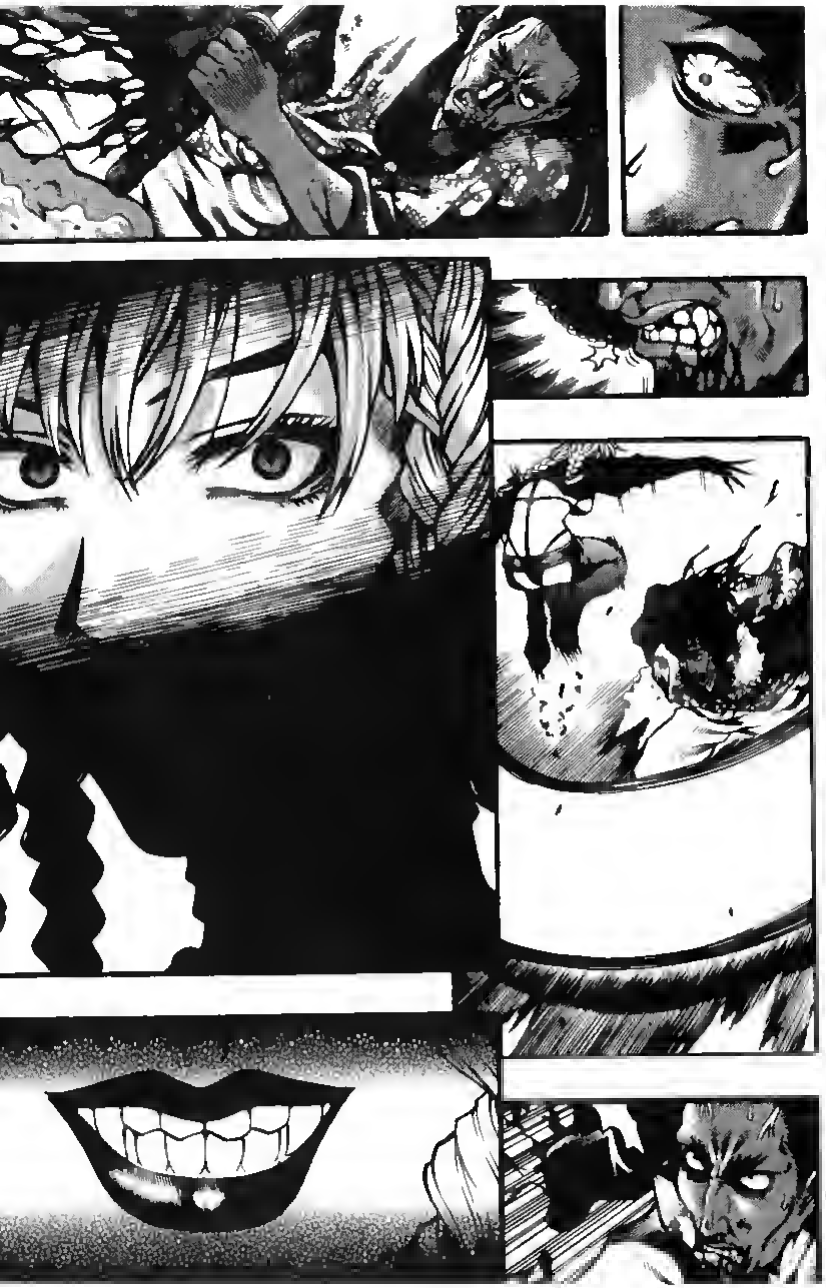
BLADE STORM!!
PTOW! HOW YOU LIKE ME NOW, BLONDIE?!
YOU MAY BE STRONG, BUT MY BLADE'LL CUT A DIAMOND LIKE IT'S TOFU!

HA! YOU FELL RIGHT INTO MY TRAP! I WAS WAITIN' FOR YOU TO TRY THAT!
MAYBE YOU WENT UP IN ONE PIECE, BUT YOU'RE COMIN' DOWN IN BIG MESSY CHUNKS!
SHING
WHOA!!
HOW'D YOU DO THAT?!


HE...WON...
WH-WHAT...?
HE WON... HE'LL CONTINUE TO WIN... UNTIL HE FACES ME.
AND WHEN I WIN, HE WILL BE MINE ALONE.
AND YOU...
...DO NOT WANT TO GET IN MY WAY.


OH, NO YOU DIDN'T. NO... YOU... DIDN'T!
BITCH...
...YOU HAVE REALLY PISSED ME OFF NOW!
BEST GET YOUR NARROW ASS OUTTA MY WAY!

K-HURK!
THUNK
OOOH...
KAFF!
YOU... LOUSY...
WHORE!!



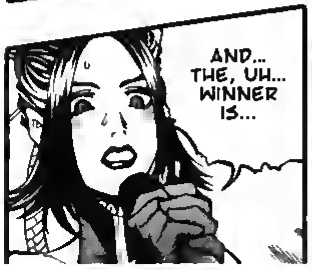
MILLENEAR! DON'T BE A FOOL! YOU'RE NOT READY FOR THAT YET!
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU--?

HOLY FLAME!!
NOOOO!! AARGHH!!
THIS... THIS POWER...?!
IT...IT CAN'T BE...!

THE... POWER OF... LIGHT!

HOW...?

NO WAY...

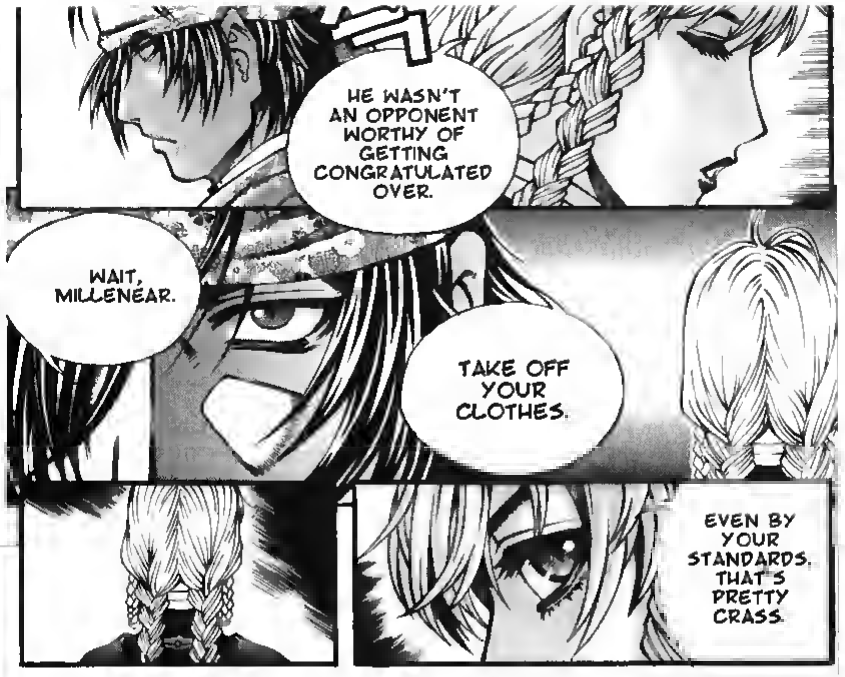

AND... THE, UH... WINNER IS...

...THE DARK ANGEL, MILLENEAR SHEPHILD!!

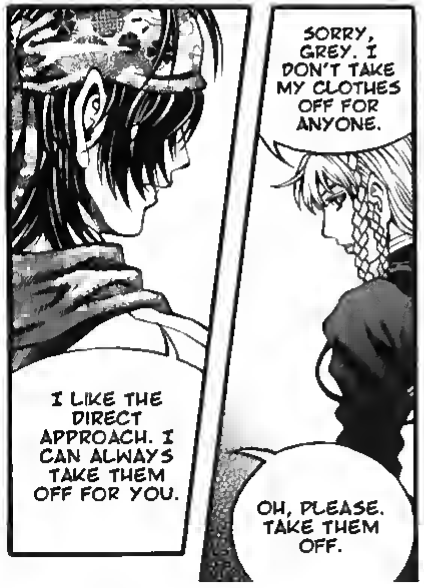
COOL...!
WOW!
OH
OH
OH

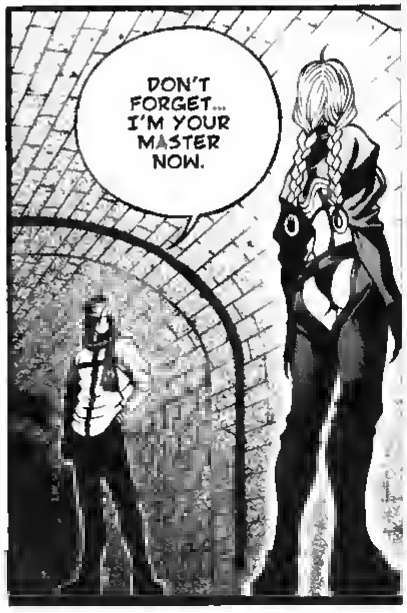
YOU GO, GIRL!
I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN, NOW!
THAT'S RIGHT, THE WINNER IS MILLENEAR SHEPHILD!
.....
SHE HAS OVERWHELMINGLY DESTROYED MIDIUS, AND SO MOVES ON TO THE NEXT ROUND!

YOU FOOL! YOU RASH, LITTLE FOOL!
I CAN TELL YOU'RE WORRIED, DESH.
SWEET, BUT UNNECESSARY.
AND THERE SHE GOES, GUYS AND GHOULS! STRUTTING OUT AS CALMLY AS SHE CAME IN!
SHE'S DEFINITELY PUT HER NAME ON THE LIST OF TOP CONTENDERS AFTER THIS BOUT! AND THE CROWD LOVES HER!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WOULD USE LIGHT-BASED MAGIC! IT'S SUICIDE! YOU'RE ONE OF THE DAMNED!
YOU'RE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'RE STILL STANDING! IF YOU'D MADE ONE LITTLE MISTAKE...
OKAY... READY FOR MORE BLOOD-SPORT?!


HE WASN'T AN OPPONENT WORTHY OF GETTING CONGRATULATED OVER.
WAIT, MILLENEAR.
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES.
EVEN BY YOUR STANDARDS, THAT'S PRETTY CRASS.

MY LITTLE MILLY.
CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON YOUR VICTORY.


I LIKE THE DIRECT APPROACH. I CAN ALWAYS TAKE THEM OFF FOR YOU.
SORRY, GREY. I DON'T TAKE MY CLOTHES OFF FOR ANYONE.
OH, PLEASE. TAKE THEM OFF.


DON'T FORGET... I'M YOUR MASTER NOW.

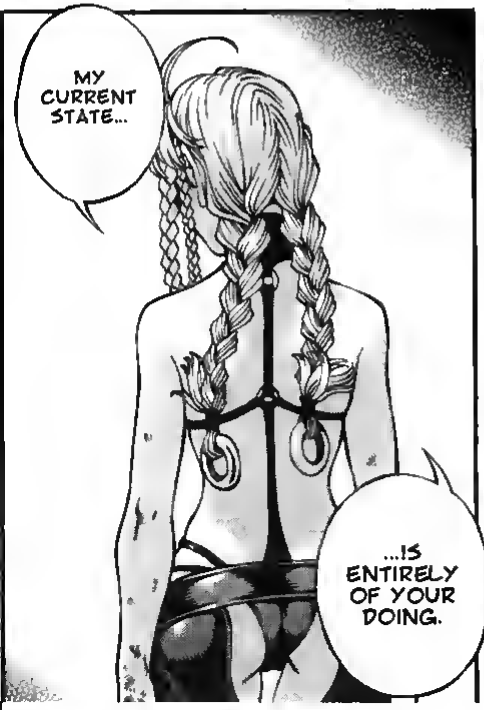
BASTARD.
FINE.
TCH
WE BOTH KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE...
WILL THIS SATISFY YOUR CURIOSITY... MASTER?
TSK... LOOK AT YOU! YOUR ARM HAS COMPLETELY ATROPHIED!
I TOLD YOU, DON'T USE ANY OF YOUR LIGHT-BASED MAGIC!
YOU KNOW THAT SUNLIGHT WILL TURN A VAMPIRE'S BODY TO ASH!
YOU CHANNELED THAT LIGHT THROUGH YOUR ARM! YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE!

GIVE ME YOUR HANDS.
GO
GO
MILLENEAR, YOU BAFFLE ME.
YOU SAID YOURSELF HE WAS NO THREAT. WHY GO TO SUCH EXTREMES?
I SUPPOSE...

I SUPPOSE I WANTED TO SHOW THAT I HAVE REAL POWER.
NOT THE POWER YOU GAVE ME, BUT THE POWER THAT COMES FROM WITHIN ME!
YOU INSOLENT GIRL.

IF THAT'S ALL, I'M VERY TIRED.

A WORD OF CAUTION. YOU'RE IN A HIGHLY AGITATED, CONTRA-DICTORY STATE RIGHT NOW.
TRY TO CONTROL YOURSELF A LITTLE BETTER.

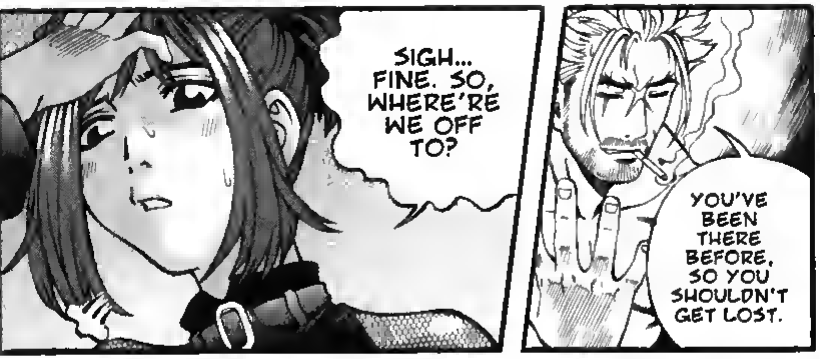

MY CURRENT STATE...
...IS ENTIRELY OF YOUR DOING.

BUT THANK YOU FOR HEALING ME.

SIGH...

HUH...?

A TRIP...?
IS THAT WHAT YOU SAID?
THAT'S RIGHT. THE TWO OF YOU.
IT'S URGENT, SO GET YOUR GEAR TOGETHER.
JUST ME. AND REMI...!
THE TWO OF US...!
OKAY.. BUT DO I HAVE TO TAKE HIM?
IT COULD GET DICEY, KID. BETTER TWO OF YOU THAN ONE.



Chapter 64: The Odds On Favorite

1999

BACK TO THE VATICAN?!

...'FRAID SO, KID. YOU NEED TO RECONNECT WITH THE ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND DELIVER THIS LETTER.

ST. MICHAEL, HUH? YEAH, WE'LL GO.
Rock & Roll
I WAS GETTING SICK OF WATCHING ROUND AFTER ROUND OF EXPLODING VAMPIRES... LITERALLY

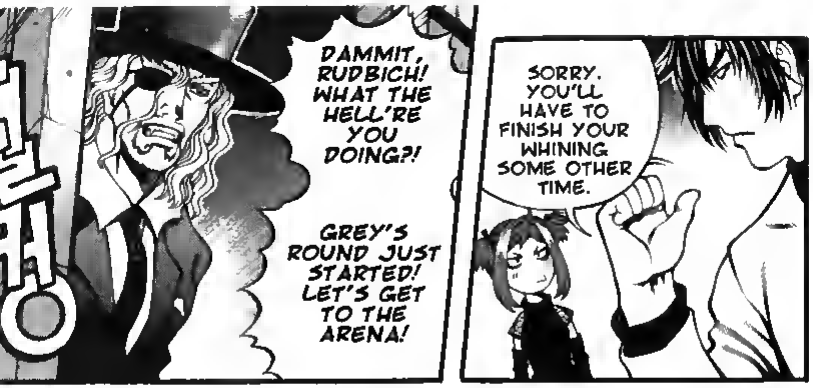
LOOK, REMI.
IT'S YOUR FIRST MISSION. I'M SURE YOU'LL BE FINE, BUT STAY CLOSE TO EIJI, OKAY?
SUCH CONCERN! I'M TOUCHED, RETT!

JUST ONE THING...

...?

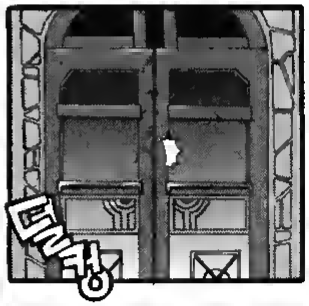
DESH, I WANT YOU TO PROMISE ME...
WHILE I'M GONE, DO YOUR BEST TO BRING BACK MILL.
I ONLY HAVE ONE OBJECTIVE BEAT THAT BASTARD GREY, WIN THE V.L.T, AND GAIN THE POWER
THAT BEING SAID, IF I GAIN THE POWER, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SAVE HER, TOO. SO I GUESS THAT'S A BONUS

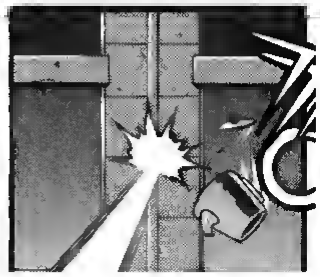
A...A BONUS...?
DID YOU JUST SAY, A BONUS?!
THE RESULT IS THE SAME, ISN'T IT?
IF YOU GET HER OUT OF THIS, I GUESS IT IS.
BUT IF FOR ONCE YOU COULD PUT SOMETHING BESIDES YOUR REVENGE FIRST, I MIGHT ACTUALLY LIKE YOU.
WHY DO I CARE IF YOU LIKE ME?


DAMMIT, RUDBICH! WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING?!
GREY'S ROUND JUST STARTED! LET'S GET TO THE ARENA!
SORRY. YOU'LL HAVE TO FINISH YOUR WHINING SOME OTHER TIME.

GO AHEAD, DESH. I'LL SEND THESE TWO OFF FIRST.
SUIT YOURSELF.

DO US ALL A FAVOR, REM!.
DON'T BOTCH THE MISSION BY BEING A SILLY GIRL.





GET A MOVE ON, RUDBICH!
GATE 3
WHAT'S THE HURRY, OLD MAN? WE KNOW GREY WILL WIN.

...OF COURSE GREY WILL WIN. THAT'S NOT WHAT'S IMPORTANT!
WE NEED TO WATCH HIM FIGHT. LOOK FOR WEAKNESSES WE MIGHT NOT'VE SEEN BEFORE.

DAMN! LOOK AT THAT CROWD! THEY ALREADY STARTED

C'MON. LET'S GO!

GATE 3.

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퍽
퍽
퍽

NOW THIS WAS UNEXPECTED! AS SOON AS THE BOUT BEGAN, ROY JONES, A.K.A. MORDRED, STARTED BOMBARDING GREY!
AND GREY, CRAFTY OPPONENT THAT HE IS, HAS COMPLETELY CLOAKED HIMSELF IN A DEFENSE SHIELD!
FOOL'S DEAD AND HE DON'T EVEN KNOW IT.
MM-HMM.

DIE! DIE! DIE, YOU PHONY BASTARD!!
THINK YOU CAN STOP A NUCLEAR BLAST?!
I'M NOT BUYING INTO YOUR PATHETIC HOAX!
HA HA HA! TURNED YOU TO POWDER...
...YOU...

IT LOOKS LIKE... YES! MR. GREY IS STILL STANDING!
NO... WHO IS THIS GUY?!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT HE DOESN'T LOOK FAZED IN THE LEAST!

HE'S ALIVE AND WELL!
NO WONDER HE'S THE FAVORITE OF THIS COMPETITION!
LOOK AT HIM! STANDING THERE WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD!
THERE'S ONE THING GREY'S GOT PLENTY OF, AND THAT'S CONFI-DENCE!
I D-DON'T BELIEVE IT!
OH! MORDRED LOOKS ABSOLUTELY STUNNED, FOLKS!
HE CAN'T BELIEVE HIS EYES!
GREY'S HOT
I'M TELLING YOU, GREY'S THE REAL DEAL, PEOPLE! ♡♡♡
THESE WRETCHES JUST LOVE HIM
YUP...
IF THEY KNEW WHAT HE'S GOT PLANNED FOR 'EM ALL, THEY MIGHT NOT BE SO ADORING.

TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST...
...I REALLY DON'T ENJOY VIOLENCE.
BUT, I HAVE CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDAS, SO...
YOU KNOW, UNTIL RECENTLY, I'D NEVER EVEN HAD TO FIGHT.
HERE'S A THOUGHT...
WHY NOT FORFEIT?
I'VE NOTHING AGAINST YOU, AND YOU'LL ONLY GET HURT.
WHAT...
...DID YOU...?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?!
TSK... WHAT A PITY.
AT LEAST I GAVE YOU A CHANCE.

AARGHH!!
I'LL... K-KILL YOU!

AAHH!!

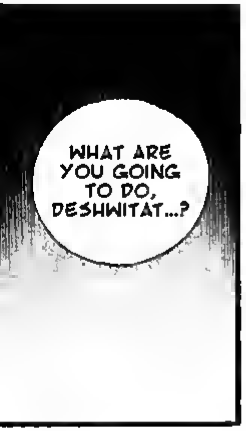
KRAAHH!!
KAFF!
KAFF!
KAFF!
HURG!

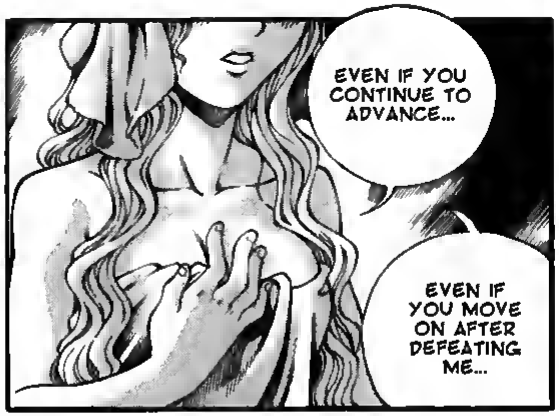
AH! AAAHH!
N-N-N-N-NOO!
AAIEEE!!

WHOA...
OOH...
우와아아

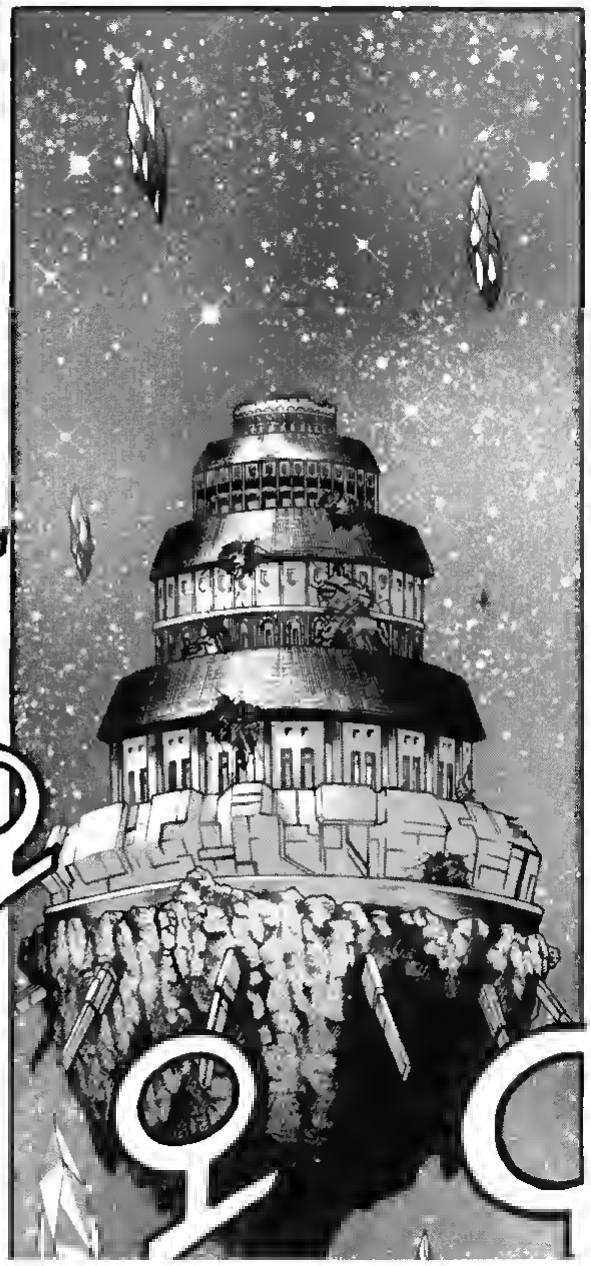
KE
OF
OF
O

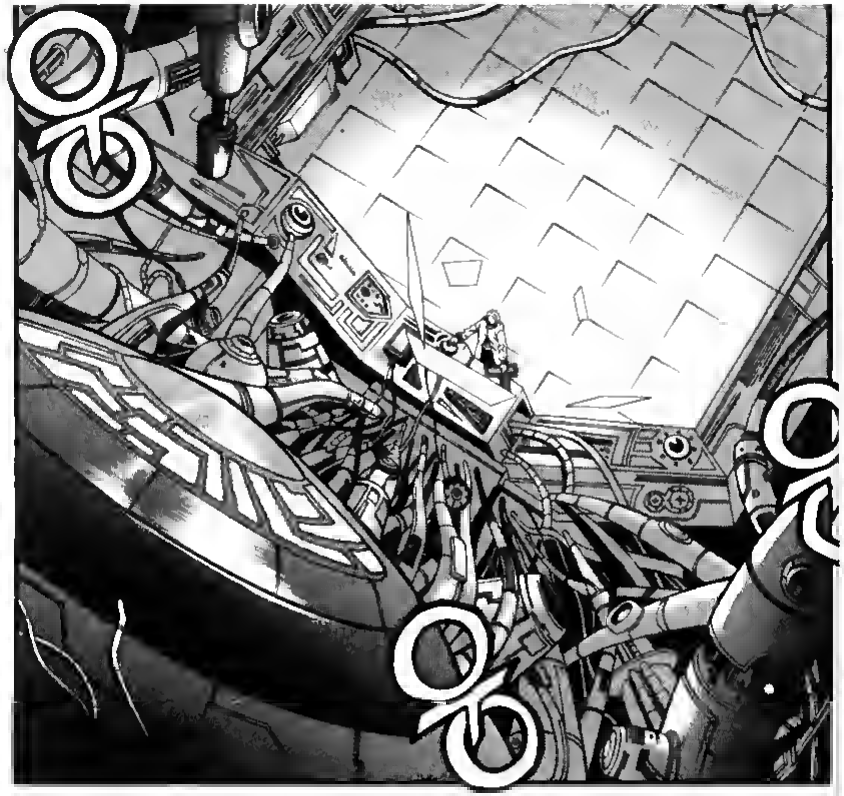
WAHOO!
IT'S A RESOUNDING VICTORY FOR MR. GREY!
GREY HAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED HIS FIRST OPPONENT IN UNDER FOUR MINUTES. HE ADVANCES!
HE CERTAINLY PUTS ON A SHOW, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT!
IT MAKES YOU WONDER, JUST HOW POWERFUL IS THIS COMBAT-ANT?!
WELL, LET'S LOOK AT THE BOARD! OH, MY...!
84,000 ENERGY POINTS! A NEW RECORD HERE AT THE V.L.T.!

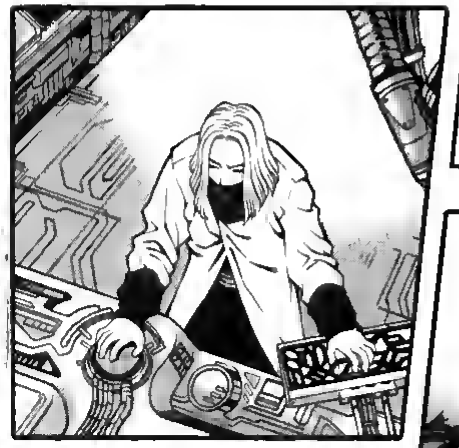




Chapter 65: Road to Destruction





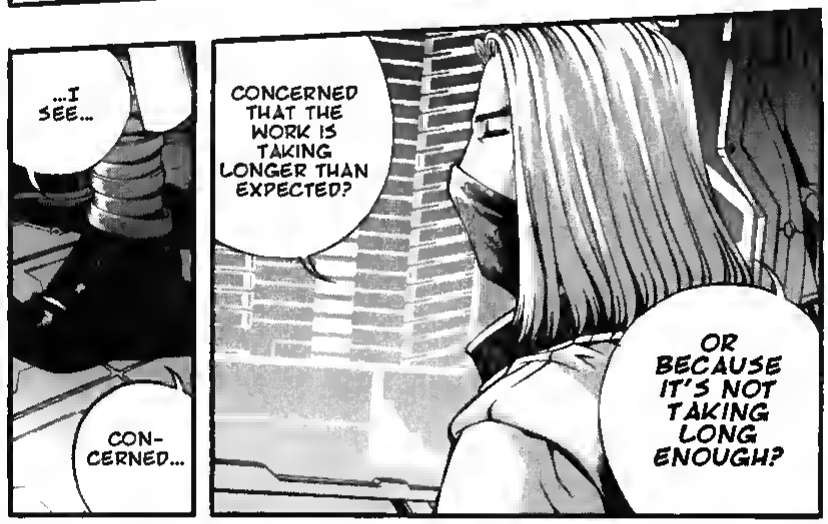


HMM...

PLANET DESTROYER SECURITY PROTECTION PROGRAM DIAGNOSTIC...
SECURITY LEVEL 96 HAS BEEN DISABLED. USER COMMAND: UNKNOWN.

OF THE 256 LEVELS OF THE THULIUS KNOT PROGRAM, I'VE ONLY BYPASSED 96?
HMPH...
SIGH... AND I THOUGHT I'D BEEN MAKING SUCH PROGRESS.
EH...?
MISS LILITH?! YOU SURPRISED ME. YOU SHOULDN'T SNEAK AROUND IN HERE.
MY APOLOGIES, DAN-EL. I DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. IS THERE SOMETHING YOU NEED?
OH, I WAS... I WAS JUST CONCERNED...

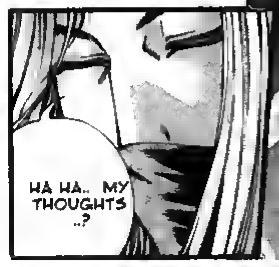

...I SEE...
CONCERNED...
CONCERNED THAT THE WORK IS TAKING LONGER THAN EXPECTED?
OR BECAUSE IT'S NOT TAKING LONG ENOUGH?

OH!!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

MISS LILITH, YOU HAVE A GREAT AFFECTION FOR THIS PLANET...
...AND KALUTIKA'S PLAN TO DESTROY IT DISTURBS YOU GREATLY.

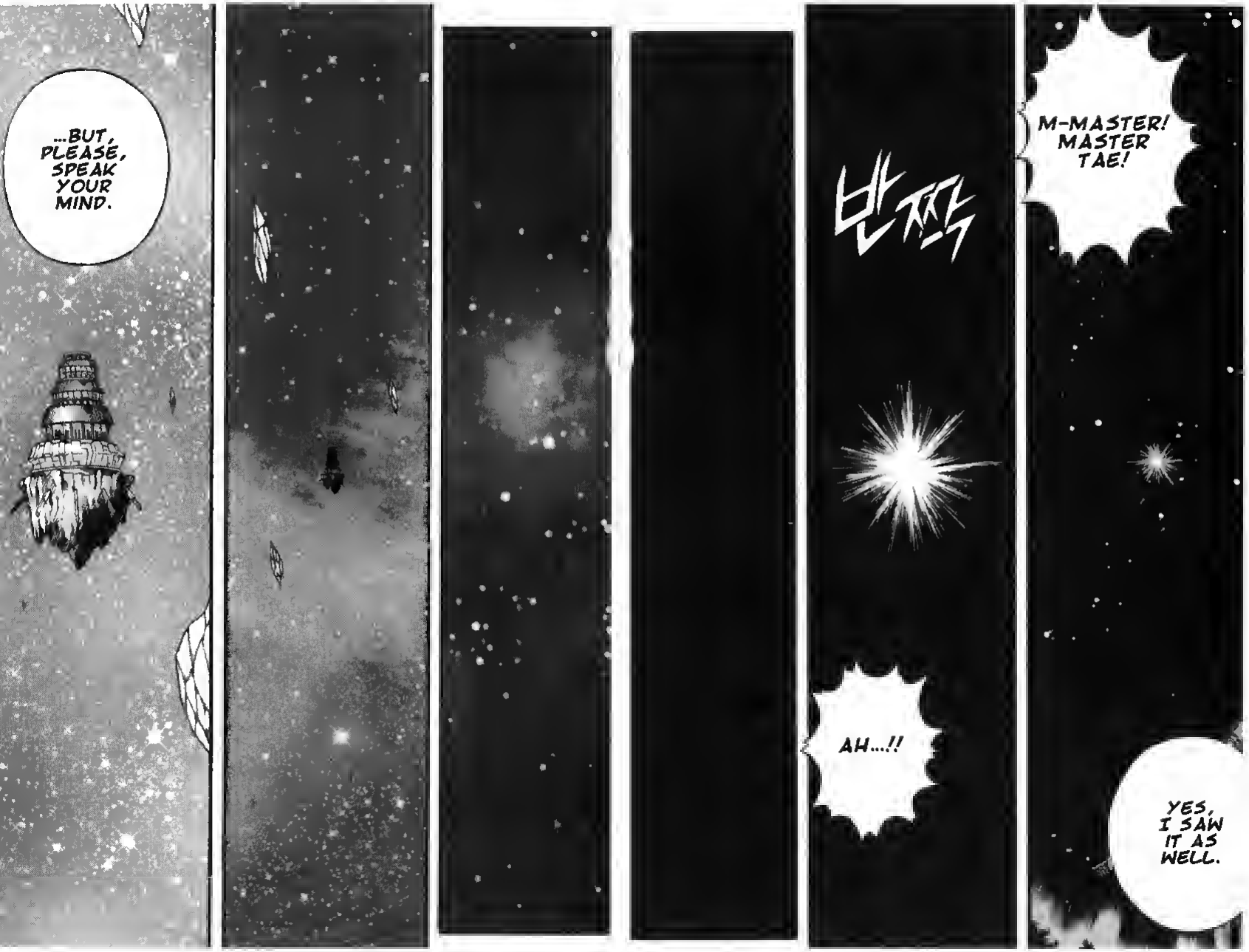
THIS IS TRUE.
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS, DAN-EL? IS KALUTIKA RIGHT? ARE HUMAN BEINGS SUCH A WICKED RACE THAT THEY SHOULD BE DESTROYED?


HA HA.. MY THOUGHTS ..?

MY THOUGHTS ARE OF NO CONSEQUENCE AT ALL.
MY VERY EXISTENCE SERVES MERELY TO FULFILL THE WHIMS OF KALUTIKA.
IF HE COMMANDS IT, I SHALL OBEY WITHOUT HESITATION OR QUESTION.

IT'S VERY CONVENIENT, I SUPPOSE.
TO SOME DEGREE, I'M ALMOST ENVIOUS.
HEH... AND YOU MOCK ME. I'M SORRY IF I'VE UPSET YOU.
INTER-ESTING...
IT IS STILL RED, I SEE...
I REFER TO YOUR RING, OF COURSE.
WELL, I DO HOPE...
...THAT IT DOES NOT TURN BLUE, BECAUSE OF GREY'S FUTURE ACTIONS.
...!

I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, DAN-EL.
I MAY EXIST SOLELY TO SERVE THE WILL OF KALUTIKA, LADY LILITH...
...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I LACK INDE-PENDENT THOUGHT.
.....
DAN-EL...?
YES?
AH, YES.
THERE IS ONE THING I NEED TO ASK OF YOU...
I BELIEVE I KNOW THE QUESTION...

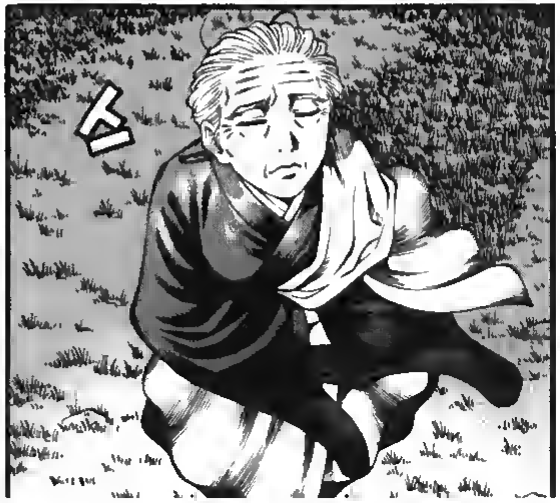

...BUT, PLEASE, SPEAK YOUR MIND.
반짝
AH...!!
M-MASTER! MASTER TAE!
YES, I SAW IT AS WELL.

ANOTHER ONE...
HOW MANY STARS WAS THAT SO FAR?

THAT WAS THE 96TH STAR, MASTER. ANOTHER OMEN IN THE BLACK STAR PROPHECY.

THE 96TH...?
OUT OF 256...

160 MORE TO GO...AND THEN, I FEAR...
...AT THE MOST, WE HAVE TWO MONTHS LEFT!



I FEAR OUR WORLD'S TIME GROWS EVER SHORTER.
I KNOW YOUR TRAILS ARE HARD, BUT PLEASE HURRY, DESHWITAT!

WELCOME TO OUR NEXT ROUND!
NOW, AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO THINKS THAT GREY'S A SURE THING TO WIN THE V.L.T.?!
THE OTHER COMPETITORS ARE JUST TRYING TO STAY IN ONE PIECE!
ALL, EXCEPT...
...THIS ONE PARTICULARLY SURPRISING COMBATANT!
ONCE AGAIN, HIS LEVEL IS DECEPTIVELY AT ZERO!
0P.
HE'S THE ULTIMATE DARK HORSE... !
DESHWITAT L. RUDBICH!

GOING UP AGAINST HIM IS THIS LITTLE VIXEN!
SHE'S BEEN VOTED "BATTLE BABE" BY THE MALE AUDIENCE!
♡
SHE'S DEADLY AND DELICIOUS... POISON ASH!
HELLO, DEAD MEAT.
♡

CHAPTER 66:
TRAUMA
Kick Ass!!

DESHWITAT L. RUDBICH--
NOW, LET'S...
WHAT A MATCHUP, FOLKS!
-- TAKING ON--
--POISON ASH!!
...GET IT ON!!

AND HERE COMES POISON ASH, BRINGING HER DEATH RUSH!
I'M THE KISS OF DEATH, BABY!

POW

SILLY PARLOR TRICKS.

I GOT YOU--!!

KYAAH!!
HRGGH!!
TALK ABOUT FLYING FANGS OF FURY!
ASH MOVES FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, BUT DESHWITAT'S TAKING IT ALL IN STRIDE!

DODGE THIS, SMUG BASTARD!

KHURGH!

OKAY... THAT HURTS...
YOU SMUDGED MY MAKEUP, PUNK.
BUT NOW I GOT YOUR NUMBER, BOY.
AND I KNOW I CAN'T MATCH YOUR STRENGTH.
I'VE STILL GOT ONE TRICK UP MY GARTER-BELT.
AND IF THAT FAILS...ENJOY YOUR VICTORY. ♡
COME TO ME--!!
MY LOVELY DEAD!!
OH, AND NOW YOU'RE SCOFFING AT ME?
LAUGH IT UP, JERK. THIS LITTLE GAG HAS NEVER FAILED ME YET.
THAT'S AN ASTUTE DEDUCTION.
SO YOU REALIZE THAT FORFEITING THE MATCH IS THE WISEST COURSE OF ACTION, YES?
OH, NO, NO... I'M AFRAID I CAN'T DO THAT.
I'VE WORKED HARD TO GET HERE. AND I'M HERE TO WIN, BUB.

WHAT DO YA THINK? CUTE, HUH?
PLAY WITH THEM FOR A WHILE, SMARTY PANTS. ♡

URGH!
ARR!
GRARGH!

A LEGION OF THE UNDEAD, CULLED FROM HER PAST VICTIMS. I MUST SAY I'M A LITTLE IMPRESSED.
BUT JUST A LITTLE. IT'S HARDLY AN ULTIMATE SECRET WEAPON NOW IS IT?
WELL, IT'S LIKE THE OLD SONG SAYS, YOU'VE GOT THE STRENGTH..
...BUT WE GOT THE NUMBERS!

YES, YES...VERY SCARY.
NOW SHUT THE HELL UP.
I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO.
HEH...
WELL, YOU HEARD HIM, KIDS...
HE SAYS, BRING IT ON!
LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.

KILL HIM!
AARH!
KRAH!
GRHH!

GAH!
HUHK!
GAH!
AIEE!

TSK... WORTHLESS MEAT PUPPETS!
C'MON! I NEED MORE OF YOU!

HA! DESH'S CUTTIN' THROUGH 'EM LIKE BUTTER!
THINKING SHE'LL WIN WITH SHEER NUMBERS IS A BIG MISTAKE.
SHE CAN COOK UP A THOUSAND OF THOSE CRUSTY BASTARDS! DESH'LL TRASH 'EM!
SO YOU SAY, RETT.
KYAA!

HE'S FALLEN INTO A TRAP.
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, BERYUN?
SURE, IT MAY SEEM LIKE DESHWITAT IS HANDLING THE ZOMBIES EASILY...
...BUT THEIR PURPOSE IS MUCH MORE DIABOLICAL.
WIDEN YOUR SCOPE TO SEE THE ENTIRE ARENA.
THE ZOMBIES...
THEY'RE STANDING IN AN INCAN-TATION FOR-MATION!!
WHAT'S THIS? DID THE BIG MAN UNDER-ESTIMATE ME?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, HARLOT?
JUST A LITTLE TIME-SPACE MAGIC, YOU DUMB APE.
I'M SENDING YOU BACK IN TIME.
BACK TO THE WORST MOMENT IN YOUR MISERABLE LIFE.
WHAT ARE YOU BAB--?

SAH

WHA--?!

I REMEMBER IT CLEARLY...
THE COLORS... THE SMELLS...
THAT PERSISTENT FEELING OF DREAD...
HAVE I REALLY RETURNED...?
AM I RELIVING THAT DAY?!

WILL ALWAYS BE DRIVEN BACK BY THE LIGHT
THIS WAS THE BEGINNING...
...AND THE END OF EVERYTHING.
MY LOVE
COULD I REALLY BE HERE AGAIN?
IS THIS A TRICK?

AAHH!!

KAL!!
I SEE...
I HAVE BEEN RETURNED...
...TO THE TIME AND PLACE WHERE SHE WAS TAKEN FROM ME.
WAIT!!
IF THIS IS REAL...

I CAN SAVE HER!!
I CAN SAVE LILITH!!
I'M STRONGER THIS TIME!
I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DEFEAT KAL, BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET HER TO SAFETY!
I WON'T LOSE HER THIS TIME!

STOP!
NO MORE ...PLEASE!
KAL! HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO US?!
WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS!
FRIENDS...?
HMM... FRIENDS, ARE WE...?
GET BACK, LILITH!!
LILIIIITH!

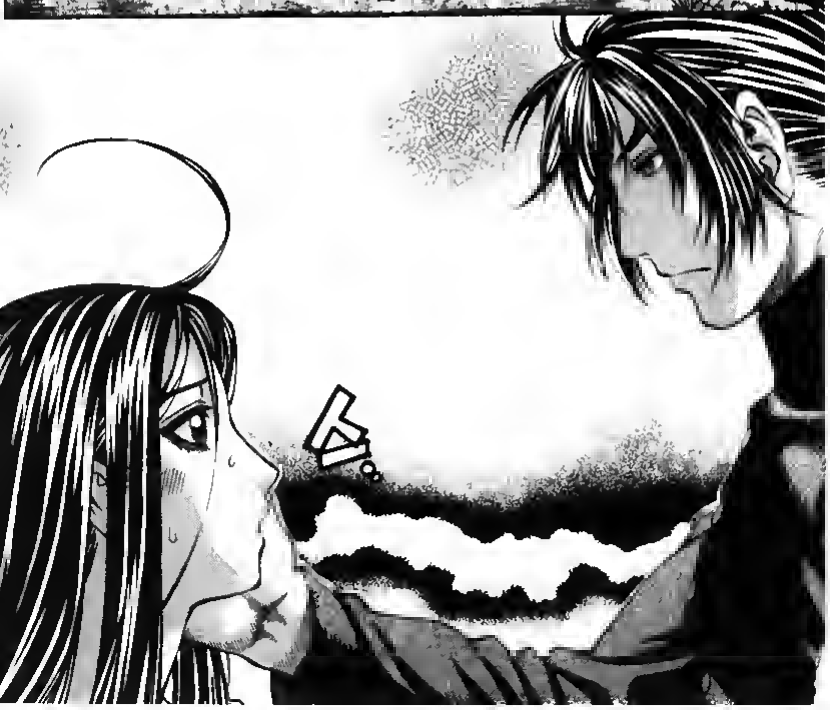
D-DESH...?!
BUT...HOW?!

INCREDIBLE! TWO DESHWITATS! WHAT AN AMAZING DEVELOPMENT!
TELL ME...THIS DOPPELGANGER... IS HE SOMETHING YOU'VE CONJURED?
OR IS HE AN APPARITION FROM THE VOID WHO WAS UNABLE TO LET GO OF THE PAST?
PLEASE, DON'T BE COY! I'VE SIMPLY GOT TO KNOW!
KILLING TWO VERSIONS OF THE SAME PERSON SIMULTANEOUSLY! WHAT AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE!

WHO...THE HELL ARE YOU?
STAY BACK!
THAT'S RIGHT...
AT THAT TIME, I KNEW NOTHING.
I WAS SIMPLY FILLED WITH FEAR AND RAGE...
GETTING STRONGER DOESN'T JUST MEAN GAINING MORE MAGIC, ROOKIE.
STRENGTH ALSO COMES FROM THE ABILITY TO GAUGE YOUR ENEMY'S STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.
BASICALLY, YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN TO HOLD 'EM AND WHEN TO FOLD 'EM, KID.
YOU'RE RIGHT, DRAISTAIL. FACING THIS BASTARD AGAIN, I THINK I UNDERSTAND.

A GOD IS TOO POWERFUL TO DEFEAT!

?



DESH...IS IT YOU?

RUN, LILITH. NOW.
WHA... WHAT?!

IF YOU FOLLOW THE PATH TO THE EAST, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MEET UP WITH RETT.
ONCE YOU FIND HIM, GET AS FAR AWAY AS FAST AS YOU CAN. NEVER COME BACK.
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, BUT THIS IS NOT YOUR FIGHT!
JUST DO WHAT I SAY, DAMMIT!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, DESHWITAT.
BUT HE'S NO LONGER THE KAL YOU KNEW. YOU CAN'T SAVE HIM.
IF YOU STAY, BOTH YOU AND LILITH WILL DIE. THIS IS CERTAIN.
.....
HOLD ON TIGHT, LILITH.
SHOK

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

WELL, WELL, WELL...

FIRST, YOU DEAL WITH ME, MONSTER.

ARGHH!
HA HA!!

FASCINATING! TRULY FASCINATING!
YOU LOOK LIKE THE VAMPIRE, BUT YOU'RE MUCH MORE POWERFUL!

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN BREAK THROUGH...
...BUT I'M NOT TRYING TO DEFEAT HIM, JUST BUY THEM SOME TIME!
BUT WILL IT BE ENOUGH?!

DESHWITAT L. RUDBICH...
...I OFFER YOU MY LIFE!!

WHY PUT YOURSELF THROUGH THIS, DESHWITAT?
IS THE LIFE OF A SINGLE HUMAN GIRL SO IMPORTANT?
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU'RE JUST BUYING THEM TIME.
TRUE, THEY MAY BE ABLE TO RUN QUITE FAR...
...BUT, MY FRIEND...
...AREN'T YOU FORGETTING SOMETHING?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
KAL'S SERVANTS!

WE'VE RETURNED, KALUTIKA.

MY APOLOGIES FOR BEING LATE.

WE RAN INTO A LITTLE... RESISTANCE.
RE-RETT?!

OH MY GOD!!
WE DESTROYED THE MALES.

BUT THE WOMAN IS FOR YOU.

LI... LILITH!!

WELL DONE.
RELEASE THE WHORE.

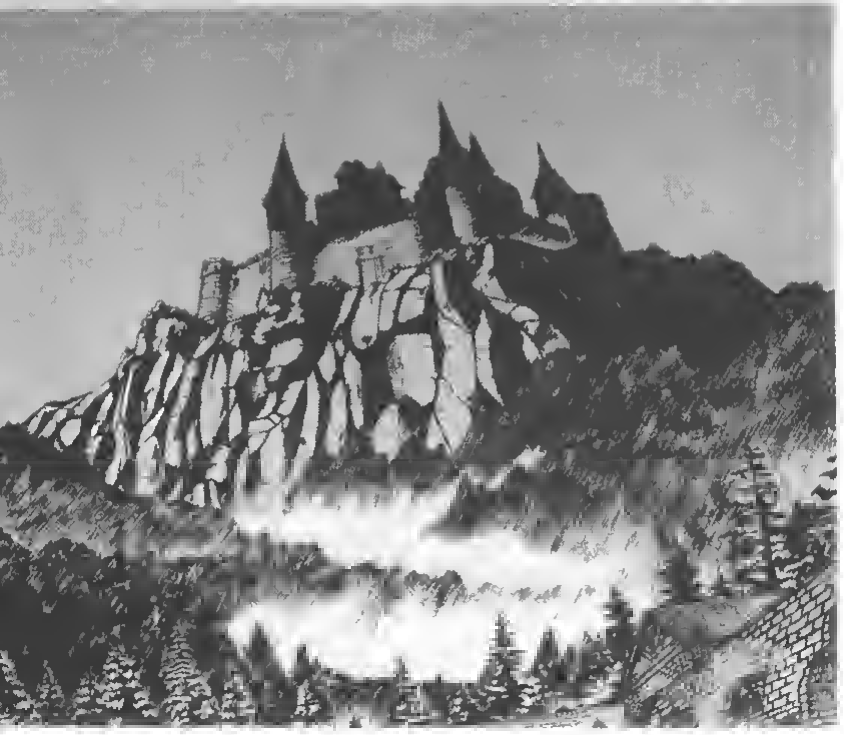
LILITH! RUN TO ME! QUICKLY!
HEH HEH... A GHOST FROM THE VOID, TRYING TO CHANGE FATE.
WHO DIED THE FIRST TIME, YOU OR LILITH?
I THINK IT WAS HER...
...WHY ELSE WOULD YOU HAVE RETURNED TO THIS MOMENT?
KOOL!

NO! I WON'T LOSE HER AGAIN!

TO BE CONTINUED IN REBIRTH VOLUME 17!

Preview: Vol. 17

In a bizarre and desperate struggle, Deshwitat vows to change the past by killing Kal, even if it means his own death. And back in the present day, Millenear educates Mr. Grey with some disturbing information about his origins. In the meantime, Remi and Eyi are up to their ears in danger as they travel to Rome on a mission to contact the covert-ops exorcism team—The Order of St. Michael.



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